

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040727

FOR SIMONS FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OGEN, RO

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL/INFORMAL

1. ROMANIAN REQUEST FOR CCC CREDITS. AT THE NAC MEETING ON FEBRUARY 14 A DECISION ON THE ROMANIAN REQUEST WAS DEFERRED FOR TWO WEEKS. AT OUR INSTIGATION, THE STATE REPRESENTATIVE PRESSED FOR POSTPONEMENT ON THE GROUNDS THAT WE WISHED TO HOLD OFF APPROVAL UNTIL WE HAD HAD THE OPPORTUNITY IN THE COURSE OF OUR MEETINGS WITH PUNGAN TO PRESS OUR CASE ON EMIGRATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS. WHILE WE ARE NOT ATTEMPTING ANY EXPLICIT LINKAGE, WE DO NOT WANT THE ROMANIANS TO FEEL THAT CCC IS A FREE RIDE. FURTHERMORE, AGRICULTURE ITSELF HAD SOME RESERVATIONS REGARDING ROMANIAN CANCELLATION OF COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS ON SOYBEAN MEAL AND RUMORS OF POSSIBLE TRANSSHIPMENT OF SOYBEANS TO YUGOSLAVIA. PLEASE CONVEY THIS INFO ON THE NAC ACTION TO NICK, WHO HAD URGED THIS COURSE OF ACTION.

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2. FISHERIES. OES HAS UNFORTUNATELY DELAYED REPORTING ON A FEBRUARY 10 MEETING BETWEEN NICOLAE AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MINK, AT WHICH NICOLAE AGAIN COMPLAINED ABOUT THE ABSENCE OF ANY FISHERIES ALLOCATION FOR ROMANIA FOR 1978. MINK PROMISED TO SEE IF ANYTHING COULD BE DONE FOR ROMANIA AND SAID SHE WOULD CONSULT WITH COMMERCE AND THE REGIONAL

COUNCILS. IT TURNS OUT THAT DESPITE OUR EARLIER ASSURANCES FROM OES THAT FOREIGN POLICY IS NEVER A FACTOR IN THESE ALLOCATIONS, WE HAVE INDEED MADE CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES AND THERE MAY BE SOME "BY-CATCH ALLOCATION" POSSIBLE FOR ROMANIA AT MID-YEAR. HOWEVER, PLEASE GIVE THE ROMANIANS NO HINT THAT ANY SUCH ACTION IS LIKELY. I AM SURE THAT THEY WILL BE REMINDING MINK OF HER PROMISE ON A WEEKLY BASIS.

3. VISIT BY SECRETARY BERGLAND. THE REASON YOU HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED A RESPONSE FROM AGRICULTURE ON THE RENEWED INVITATIONS FROM MICULESCU IS THAT BERGLAND HAS NOT YET MADE A DEFINITE DECISION ON DATES AND ITINERARY FOR A TRIP TO EE. IT APPEARS FAIRLY CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT HE WILL BE VISITING THE USSR MAY 10-25 AND THAT HE WILL STOP OFF IN AT LEAST ONE EE CAPITAL. THE DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN ITS APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE TO VISITS TO BOTH ROMANIA AND POLAND, AND WE EXPECT BUCHAREST TO BE INCLUDED, BUT SINCE NOTHING IS DEFINITE YET, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST NOT REPEAT NOT TO CONVEY ANY OF THIS TO THE GOR AS YET.

4. EXPORT CONTROL POLICY. RAUER MEYER CHAIRED AN INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON FEBRUARY 13 ON US EXPORT CONTROL POLICY TO ROMANIA WITH A VIEW TOWARD POSSIBLE LIBERALIZATION. WHILE STATE (EB/EWT AND EE) AND COMMERCE ARGUED FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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LIBERALIZATION, BOTH IN US CONTROLS AND PERHAPS SOME REFERENCE TO ROMANIA'S SPECIAL STATUS IN COCOM, THERE IS STRONG RESISTANCE FROM DOD, CIA AND DOE. IT IS NOT AT ALL CLEAR HOW THIS EXERCISE WILL TURN OUT, BUT WE WILL LET YOU KNOW.

5. VISIT BY SPIRIDE? WE HAVE HEARD RUMORS THAT SPIRIDE IS TO VISIT THE US IN EARLY 1978. ANYTHING FIRM ON THIS TRIP?

6. CONGRATULATIONS TO NICK BURAKOW AND TOM LYNCH ON MANAGING TO GET A PROMOTION ON A VERY SHORT LIST.

7. CASTRO ASSIGNMENT. HIGGINS REPORTS THAT SEVILLE HAS ALREADY GONE TO AN O-3 AND THEY ARE LOOKING FOR MORE CONSULAR EXPERIENCE FOR OPORTO SLOT. HE IS BEING CONSIDERED AT THE MOMENT FOR BOTH RECIFE AND BARRANQUILLA (PRINCIPAL OFFICER JOBS) AND HIGGINS WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF EMIL IS INTERESTED IN THESE. MAJOR PROBLEM HAS BEEN THAT EMIL COMPETING FOR O-3 SLOTS AGAINST O-3 CANDIDATES. HIGGINS ALSO INTERESTED IN LEARNING IF EMIL WOULD CONSIDER "GOOD" WASHINGTON SLOT, BUT HE WAS NOT MORE SPECIFIC. VANCE

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